United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1454
11 August 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

• Normalization of Haitian Parliament yesterday welcomed by Special Envoy of Secretaries-General of United Nations and Organization of American States (OAS) in Haiti; says sanctions could be lifted once Prime Minister is ratified.

• Conference on Disarmament gives mandate to its Ad Hoc Committee to negotiate comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty; decides to invite participation of International Atomic Energy Agency.

• Fifteen troop-contributing countries express concern over delays in reimbursement of expenses; warn that timely repayment is essential for sustained participation in peace-keeping operations.

• Secretary-General appoints Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large in Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, as Special Envoy to lead mission to Russian Federation, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

• The sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution are universal phenomena, Special Rapporteur tells Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

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The action taken yesterday to normalize the Haitian Parliament was welcomed by the Special Envoy of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) in Haiti, Dante Caputo.

He said that the action strengthened the democratization process established in the Governors Island Agreement and in the Pact of New York. He expressed the hope that it would be followed promptly by the ratification of the Prime Minister, leading to the return of democracy.

Once that had occurred, the Special Envoy said, the United Nations Secretary-General would recommend to the Security Council the immediate suspension of the sanctions against Haiti, imposed in June in an effort to restore constitutional rule. The international community's technical

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assistance and financial aid programme for the country would then be initiated, Mr. Caputo said.

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In a move described by many participants as historic, the Conference on Disarmament decided in Geneva yesterday to give its Ad Hoc Committee a mandate to negotiate a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. The decision expressed the conviction of the Conference that, in order to contribute effectively to preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, to disarmament and to international peace, a complete test ban treaty must be universal and effectively verifiable.

As the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, the Conference stated that it was the appropriate forum for conducting negotiations on such a treaty. It also decided yesterday to invite the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to participate in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban, and to inquire as to what role the IAEA might play in implementing such a treaty.

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A group of troop-contributing countries have written to the Secretary-General to express their concern over delays in the reimbursement of the expenses they incur in that connection. The aide-memoire was handed to the Secretary-General in a meeting he held with the representatives of the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

Their countries contributed troops and equipment, they said, because they were mindful of the collective responsibility of Member States to maintain international peace and security. That entailed a considerable financial burden. Delays in reimbursing troop costs and compensations could make it difficult to participate in United Nations peace-keeping operations, particularly for the developing countries. The representatives expressed their willingness to cooperate to devise ways and means to find solutions to the problem.

The Secretary-General, in letters to the Member States last week about the financial predicament facing the Organization, had stated that troop-contributing countries were owed $360 million. Outstanding contributions to the peace-keeping operations totaled $1,193 million.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to appoint Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, as his Special Envoy to lead a mission to the Russian Federation, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, effective 21 August.

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Professor Koh served for many years as his country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. He was President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1981-1982) and Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

The two-week mission, scheduled to depart from New York on 28 August, will focus on the withdrawal of foreign military forces from the Baltic States, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/21.

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The sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution were universal phenomena, the Commission on Human Rights Special Rapporteur on the sale of children told the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities today, as it began its continued consideration of issues relating to the protection of children and women.

Although the character and degree of such activities varied from country to country, their global nature was of concern, said Vitit Muntarbhorn, the Special Rapporteur. Eastern Europe was an example of a new market for the sale of children, child prostitution and exploitation, and child pornography was rampant both in Europe and the United States. In Asia, where the risk of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) infection was high, children were coerced into prostitution to serve European and Australian clients.

Although the international nature of such abuses made them difficult to combat, he continued, improved prevention was needed. Poverty elimination, improved employment and education opportunities, measures to bolster the family support structure and broadened anti-crime measures were called for. In addition, industries in which child abuse occurred, such as tourism, video and publishing, must be held accountable for any violations.

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1455
12 August 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Force Commander of United Nations Protection Force says he is expecting Secretary-General's assessment on potential use of air strikes in Bosnia and Herzegovina; says air force should only be used as last resort.

+ Call for immediate action in Bosnia and Herzegovina made today by delegation from Organization of Islamic Conference, including possible air strikes.

+ Secretary-General to send reconnaissance mission to Rwanda, to identify ways to help implement Peace Agreement between Government of Rwanda and Rwandese Patriotic Front.

+ Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan tell Secretary-General of concern about situation on Tajik-Afghan border; call for Security Council action, including possible sending of United Nations observers.

+ Cyrus Vance begins discussions in New York with representatives of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; scheduled to meet with representatives of Greek Government.

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The Force Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), General Jean Cot, today told correspondents that he was expecting to receive later this afternoon the Secretary-General's assessment on the potential use of air strikes in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A delegation from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was to meet with the Secretary-General today to present its conclusions on the matter.

He described the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina as relatively quiet since the 30 July cease-fire. A further cease-fire agreement had been signed at Sarajevo airport on 10 August, which would come into effect at the same time as the more global agreement being negotiated now in Geneva. He said the question of Mount Igman and Mount Bjelasnica was of predominantly symbolic

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value; the Bosnians were demanding that the Serb troops withdraw from those areas before they would rejoin the Geneva negotiations, while the Serbs had started drawing back logistic units and were to follow with the combat units.

General Cot said that he and the NATO Southern Europe Commander, Admiral Mike Boorda, with full endorsement by the Atlantic Council, had recommended that retaliation, if carried out, be in proportion to the offensive, with air force used only as a last resort and collateral damage restricted to an absolute minimum.

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A call for immediate action in Bosnia and Herzegovina - including the possible use of air strikes - was made today by a delegation representing the Organization of the Islamic Conference (IOC). The speakers, the Foreign Ministers of Senegal, Turkey and Tunisia and the Secretary-General of the IOC, said that they had been mandated by 51 IOC member States to convey the distress and anguish of their Governments and peoples at the tragedy that had been unfolding in Bosnia and Herzegovina over the past 18 months.

They called on the world community "to act, not merely to make pronouncements". The North Atlantic Council had approved air strikes to ensure that the aggressor's forces vacate the mountain areas that they had occupied in the last few days and that they lift the seige that they were imposing on other towns in Bosnia and Herzegovina. That action, they stated, should be taken now.

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Following the signing in Arusha on 4 August 1993 of the Peace Agreement between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF), Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to send a reconnaissance mission to Rwanda to assess the situation in the country. The move is in response to Security Council resolution 846 (1993) by which the Secretary-General was requested to report on the contribution the United Nations could make to assist the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in implementing the peace agreement.

The Government of Rwanda and the RPF have called for the establishment of a Neutral International Force, to assist in the implementation. The reconnaissance mission will examine the possible functions of such a force and evaluate the human and financial resources needed to carry them out. It will be composed of officials from concerned United Nations departments and will be led by Macaire Pédanou, who represented the Secretary-General at the Arusha peace talks. The mission is expected to arrive in Kigali on 16 August for two weeks of consultations with representatives of the Government and the RPF. It will also meet with representatives of the OAU and members of its Neutral Military Observer Group (NMOG II).

The senior officials of the mission will also visit Dar-Es-Salaam and Addis Ababa for consultations with the Government of Tanzania and the OAU, which acted as Facilitator and Coordinator respectively at the Arusha peace talks.

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The Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have written to the Secretary-General concerning the aggravation of the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, a United Nations spokesman said today.

In their letter, according to the spokesman, they asked the Security Council to consider immediately the critical situation that had arisen on the Tajik-Afghan border and to take measures to ensure its inviolability, including the possible sending of United Nations observers.

The Secretary-General last week wrote to the Heads of State of Afghanistan and Tajikistan expressing his concern about the increasing hostilities in the border region and urging all parties to exercise maximum restraint.

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Cyrus Vance yesterday began discussions in New York with representatives of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a United Nations spokesman announced today. The talks would be followed by discussions with representatives of the Government of Greece.

Following this round of talks, the spokesman said, Mr. Vance planned to travel to Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia later this month, for meetings with the Heads of Government of these countries.

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1456
13 August 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, after fourth review of sanctions against Libya, finds again no agreement that necessary conditions exist for modification of sanctions; Governments of United States, France and United Kingdom call on Libyan Government to comply with previous Security Council resolutions by 1 October, following which strengthening of sanctions will be implemented.

+ United Nations resumes humanitarian relief deliveries to parts of Liberia controlled by National Patriotic Front of Liberia, in cooperation with non-governmental relief organizations.

+ Bosnia and Herzegovina files second request with International Court of Justice calling for provisional measures against Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to prevent crime of genocide.

+ International Atomic Energy Agency team of inspectors visits nuclear facilities in Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but finds access too limited to allow adequate assessment.

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The Security Council, following its fourth scheduled review of the measures imposed against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, found again that there was no agreement that the necessary conditions existed for modification of the sanctions, the President of the Council, Madeleine Albright (United States), announced this afternoon.

In her capacity as Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations, Ambassador Albright, went on to say that her Government and those of France and the United Kingdom, in the interest of giving Libya one last chance, had asked the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to achieve the full implementation by the Libyan Government of resolution 731 within 40 to 45 days.

"If, by 1 October, the Libyan Government has failed to comply with resolution 731 and 748, including the transfer to the United States or United

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Kingdom of jurisdiction of the Lockerbie suspects and compliance with the requests of French justice on UTA 772," she continued, "we will table a resolution strengthening the sanctions in key oil-related financial and technological areas."

She said that the three Governments re-iterated that they had no hidden agenda and that on the contrary, upon full implementation by Libya of the Security Council resolutions, the conditions would be met for the lifting of the sanctions by the Council.

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The United Nations has resumed humanitarian relief deliveries to parts of Liberia controlled by the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), according to a spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. The resumption had the agreement of all parties to the Cotonou Peace Accord, signed on 25 July, and the cooperation of non-governmental relief organizations. Aid deliveries were halted while inspection procedures required under the Accord were put into place.

A convoy of 21 vehicles carrying food aid, nutritional supplements and medical supplies left Monrovia this morning for the area around Kakata where there many displaced people are in urgent need of assistance. Of particular concern are an estimated 10,000 malnourished children. On the first convoy, relief workers representing United Nations agencies, as well as local and international non-governmental organizations, will carry out a general food distribution for 4,000 people and provide supplementary feeding to some 3,000 children.

The humanitarian workers will also make an assessment of emergency needs as the basis for future relief operations. The United Nations is exploring additional routes for channelling humanitarian assistance to the area, including a cross-border route from Côte d'Ivoire.

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Bosnia and Herzegovina has filed a second request with the International Court of Justice calling for provisional measures to be ordered against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to prevent commission of the crime of genocide. Amongst the measures requested is that the Government of Bosnia be granted the means, including arms, munitions and equipment, to defend its people and State "from acts of genocide and partition and dismemberment by means of genocide".

Bosnia and Herzegovina states that it is taking the extraordinary step of making this second request because the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has violated every measure of protection issued by the Court in its initial order of 8 April. "In addition to continuing its campaign of genocide against the Bosnian people -- whether Muslim, Christian, Jew, Croat or Serb -- the Respondent is now planning, preparing, conspiring to, proposing and negotiating the partition, dismemberment, annexation and incorporation of the

sovereign State of Bosnia and Herzegovina -- a member of the United Nations Organization -- by means of genocide," the request states.

The Court issued the first provisional measures in the context of the suit initiated on 20 March by Bosnia and Herzegovina against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) on the application of the 1948 Genocide Convention to which both States are party. The Court announced that hearings on the second request for provisional measures would be on 25 August, in The Hague.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported today that a team of its inspectors visited some nuclear facilities at the Nyongbyon site in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from 3 to 10 August. The inspection was restricted to containment and surveillance activities.

Stating that the overall degree of access granted to the site was still insufficient to enable the inspectors to make an overall assessment, the IAEA said the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, however, seemed willing to enter into consultations on the implementation of the safeguards agreement. No specific date had yet been proposed, but the Agency was ready for such talks at any time. The question of its access to two specific sites would be among the issues to be raised during such consultations.

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1457
16 August 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ UNHCR condemns killing on Saturday of staff member in central Bosnian town of Vitez; appeals to all sides in conflict in former Yugoslavia to honour assurances of safe access for humanitarian operations.

+ Special Committee against Apartheid to hold Joint North American/European Non-Governmental Organization Consultation on 30 and 31 August in Geneva; to focus on development needs in South Africa.

+ Special Coordinator recommends that membership of Conference on Disarmament be expanded from 39 to about 60 States.

+ Cost of meeting emergency needs of population affected by recent shelling of southern Lebanon estimated at $29 million, according to report of United Nations humanitarian needs assessment mission.

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United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Sadako Ogata yesterday condemned the killing of a UNHCR staff member in the central Bosnian town of Vitez. Boris Zeravcic, who worked for UNHCR's Zenica office as a driver and interpreter, was shot dead on Saturday while driving a clearly identifiable UNHCR armoured vehicle through the town. The other members of the UNHCR team, which had gone to Vitez to arrange an aid delivery scheduled for Monday, were not injured.

Mrs. Ogata said the cowardly attack on unarmed UNHCR staff was an example of the brutal violation of international humanitarian standards in the former Yugoslavia, and appealed to all sides in the conflict to honour assurances of safe and unhindered access for humanitarian operations.

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The Special Committee against Apartheid will hold a Joint North American/European Non-Governmental Organization Consultation on 30 and 31 August in Geneva. The Consultation, which is being organized jointly with the

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For information media--not an official record

Non-Governmental Organization Subcommittee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization, will bring together some 50 representatives of non-governmental organizations from North America, Europe and North Africa. Representatives of United Nations agencies will also participate.

The Consultation will focus on the social and economic development needs in rural and township communities in South Africa and role of international non-governmental organizations in helping them meet those needs.

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The Special Coordinator responsible for negotiations to improve the structure and functioning of the Conference on Disarmament has recommended that its membership be expanded from 39 to about 60 States. Paul O'Sullivan (Australia) reported to the Conference in Geneva on Thursday that there was a general acceptance of the need to expand membership, while maintaining the Conference's essential character as a negotiating body.

Members wanted decisions to continue to be taken by consensus, he said, and the Conference to concentrate on developing agreements and treaties in the field of security, arms control and disarmament.

The expansion was proposed in response to a demand that the Conference be made more representative following the end of the cold war, Mr. O' Sullivan said. The recommendations were balanced in geographical and geostrategic terms. If they were accepted, new members could begin participating at the start of the 1994 session.

* * *

The estimated cost of meeting the emergency needs of the population affected by the recent shelling of southern Lebanon is almost $29 million, according to a report by a United Nations inter-agency humanitarian mission which visited the area from 8 to 13 August.

Some 350,000 people were forced to flee their homes during the shelling, many of them farmers who had lost their crops as a result of the displacement. The report states that about 70 villages were destroyed or damaged. Some 1,500 families had lost their homes and a further 1,000 houses had been partially destroyed.

The immediate needs of those affected has largely been met through existing emergency supplies in Lebanon and yesterday a flight organized by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs brought in an additional 35 tons of basic relief items.

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United Nations

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Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1458
17 August 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says UNPROFOR mandate in Croatia should not be reconsidered at this stage; says he cannot accede to Croatian proposal that Force deal separately with Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

+ Geneva talks to end war in Bosnia and Herzegovina continue with "serious search for solutions"; committee examining proposed United Nations role in supervising Sarajevo reports to heads of delegations; Bosnian President to visit New York for consultations.

+ Azerbaijan says Armenia's armed forces are stepping up military operations in its territory in spite of Security Council resolution 853 (1993); asks Council to consider applying sanctions against "the aggressor".

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In view of the ongoing peace-keeping efforts in Croatia, no action should be taken at this stage to reconsider the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Croatia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has stated in a report to the Security Council dated 16 August. He wrote also that, in view of the overlapping political, administrative and operational considerations, he was "unable at this time to respond positively" to a proposal by the Croatian Government that UNPROFOR be mandated to deal separately with Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

When the Security Council voted on 20 June to extend UNPROFOR'S mandate to 30 September, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report one month later on progress towards implementation of the United Nations peace-keeping plan for Croatia. In recommending that extension, the Secretary-General said that significant progress in peacemaking efforts would be required if any further renewal was to be contemplated beyond that date. He stated in this latest report that the problems described then had clearly not been resolved.

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Mr. Boutros-Ghali said he would submit a further recommendation to the Council in the latter half of September.

* * *

Talks in Geneva to end the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina continued today with several meetings and "a serious search for solutions", according to a United Nations spokesman. Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, first held a joint meeting with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and members of their delegations, and then with President Izetbegovic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban and members of their delegations.

Co-Chairmen later met with the heads of all delegations on the question of Sarajevo. A committee looking into a proposal for a United Nations role in supervising the city reported to the meeting, which then moved on to other map-related issues.

In a separate development, the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Muhamed Sacirbey, announced today that President Izetbegovic was planning to come to the New York within the next two weeks to consult with members of the Security Council and with the Membership as a whole regarding Bosnia's position in the international community, and the principles under which negotiations were to be pursued in Geneva.

At a news conference this afternoon Ambassador Sacirbey also rejected reports that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was waiting for offers of medical help from the international community for people in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He said that his mission had received offers of free medical care months ago, not only for the people of Sarajevo but also for those in need in other cities. Currently 400 physicians and 100 hospitals in the United States had offered their services, he said, stressing that the only obstacle to the delivery of that health care was "the bureaucracy which is the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

* * *

Azerbaijan has accused Armenia's armed forces of stepping up military operations in its territory in spite of Security Council resolution 853 (1993), which condemned the seizure of occupied areas of Azerbaijan and demanded an immediate end to all hostilities there. In a letter dated 16 August, Azerbaijan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations appealed "urgently and categorically" to the Council to take the necessary measures to ensure Armenia's implementation of that resolution.

Azerbaijan asked the Council to consider applying sanctions against "the aggressor" -- Armenia -- as provided for in the United Nations Charter. Sanctions might include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations, according to the letter.

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United Nations

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Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1459
18 August 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ United Nations to participate in governance of Sarajevo District for two years, according to agreement reached today by three parties to conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina; International Human Rights Monitoring Mission is also to be established.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement, expresses serious concern at deterioration of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan; calls on Armenian Government to use its "unique influence" to bring about end to hostilities, citing threat to peace and security in region.

+ Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says Somalia must be fully disarmed if UNOSOM II is to implement its mandate; recommends assignment of extra troop brigade; says criminal elements must be brought to justice if security is to be restored.

+ UNOMUR begins deployment on Uganda side of Uganda-Rwanda border to see that no military assistance reaches Rwanda; observers and staff to be deployed by 8 September.

+ Cambodian Armed Forces attack position held by National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK), one of three or more NADK strongholds targeted in joint Cambodian military operation.

+ Chairman of Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions tells Fifth Committee new procedures are needed for formulating peace-keeping cost estimates.

+ Suit by Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to prevent authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina from committing genocide against Bosnian Serbs to be heard by International Court of Justice on 25 August, together with second request for similar measures requested by Bosnia and Herzegovina against Federal Republic.

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An agreement on the governance of Sarajevo was announced in Geneva today between the three parties to the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of the Constitutional Agreement of the Union of Republics of that country.

According to a statement issued this afternoon, the parties have agreed that the United Nations will participate in the governance of the Sarajevo District for two years, or less, if recommended by the Bosnian Presidency and with the agreement of the Security Council. The parties have committed themselves to finding a permanent solution during that period. The Sarajevo District is to be governed by a United Nations Administrator appointed by the Secretary-General and working under the supervision of his Special Representative.

According to the agreement, each "opstina" of Sarajevo and each Constituent Republic is to organize and control its own uniformed police force, with proportionally balanced ethnic composition. The parties have agreed that, as part of the deployment of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the country, there will be a large civilian police element whose principal task will be to monitor those police forces, to ensure that they do not oppress members of minority ethnic groups and that they contribute positively to the reversal of "ethnic cleansing" by protecting people returning from forced flight.

With regards to protecting human rights and reversing "ethnic cleansing", the right has been established of a refugee or displaced person to freely return, as part of the overall process of normalisation. All statements and commitments made under duress, particularly those relating to the relinquishment of rights to land or property, are to be treated as null and void.

The parties have agreed to the establishment by the Secretary-General of an International Human Rights Monitoring Mission. It is to be headed by a Human Rights Commissioner for Bosnia and Herzegovina based in Sarajevo and supported by international monitors deployed throughout the country. He will be expected to submit regular reports to the Secretary-General, who will report periodically to the Security Council.

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The Security Council today expressed serious concern at the deterioration of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In a statement read out by its President, Madeleine Albright (United States), the Council called on the Government of Armenia to use its influence to achieve compliance by the Armenians of Nagorny-Karabakh with its resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993).

The Council also expressed concern at the recent intensification of fighting in the area of Fizuli. It demanded an immediate end to hostilities, which endangered peace and security in the region, and an immediate, complete

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and unconditional withdrawal of occupying forces from Fizuli, Kelbadjar, Agdam and other recently occupied areas of Azerbaijan. The Council called on the Government of Armenia to use its "unique influence" to that end.

The Council reaffirmed the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijani Republic and stressed its support for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) peace process. It called on all parties to refrain from any action that would obstruct a peaceful solution and welcomed the CSCE's intention to send a mission to the region to report on the situation.

The Council strongly reaffirmed its call for States not to supply arms which might lead to an intensification of the conflict or the continued occupation of Azerbaijani territory. The Council also renewed its calls for unimpeded access for international humanitarian relief efforts in the region, reminding the parties that they were bound by the principles and rules of international humanitarian law.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that all factions and warlords must be fully disarmed if the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) is to implement the other aspects of its mandate, political, civil or humanitarian. In a report dated 17 August, the Secretary-General said Somalia would not enjoy stability until criminal elements had been brought to justice as demanded by Security Council resolution 837 (1993). He also stated that the responsibility for the recent incidents that had led to the loss of life rested squarely with the faction leaders, in particular Mohamed Farah Aidid.

The Secretary-General went on to recommend that an extra brigade be assigned to UNOSOM II in order to extend its activities, pursue the programme of disarmament and tackle the refugee problem. Moreover, the extra troops would enable the Operation to fulfil its mandate sooner, and might be funded from appropriations already approved. The restoration of security and stability would also require the re-establishment of the Somali police force and the judicial and penal systems, and it was imperative that donor Governments provide adequate funds and training assistance. Aiding the political and reconciliation process was a high priority. UNOSOM II had sponsored meetings of clan elders in various regions, leading to the restoration of stable and secure conditions there.

Serious problems had been encountered in establishing UNOSOM II, which highlighted the inadequacies of existing procedures for dealing with a new generation of peace-keeping operations, the Secretary-General continued. Delays arising from established administrative, financial and logistical procedures had made their obsolescence obvious. The issue of command and control deserved attention in order to avoid complications that might weaken future operations. Risks to personnel could only be minimized if there were effective command and control on the ground by the Force Commander. While troop-contributing countries must be consulted and informed, the integrity of

the command and control of United Nations operations must always be respected, the Secretary-General stated.

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The United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) began deployment on the Uganda side of the Uganda-Rwanda border today to verify that no military assistance reaches Rwanda, in accordance with Security Council resolution 846 (1993). The deployment follows the signing of a peace agreement in Arusha, Tanzania, between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) on 4 August. A status of mission agreement was subsequently concluded between the Secretary-General and the Government of Uganda on 16 August.

The Mission, which will consist of 81 observers, 17 international staff and seven local support staff, should be fully deployed by 8 September. It is to be headed by Brigadier-General Romeo Dallaire of Canada, and observers have been contributed by Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Hungary, Netherlands, Senegal, the Slovak Republic and Zimbabwe. The Mission will cost an estimated $8.5 million for an initial six-month period and will be subject to review every six months.

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The Cambodian Armed Forces (CAF) early this morning attacked a position held by the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) at the village of Phum Chhat, a United Nations spokesman said today. It was one of three Khmer Rouge strongholds in the northwest Cambodian province of Bantey Meanchey targeted in a joint operation involving the different military forces that now form the unified Cambodian armed forces.

Unconfirmed reports indicated that there had been several NADK casualties. There had also been rumours, the spokesman said, of more CAF attacks on NADK positions in other provinces.

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C.S.M. Mselle, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), this morning urged Member States to develop new procedures for formulating peace-keeping estimates and for the legislative review of those operations by the General Assembly. Such a step was urgently needed, he said, in view of the many bottlenecks resulting from the sudden emergence of many large operations requiring billions of dollars per year.

Addressing the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) as it began its consideration of the financing of a number of peace-keeping operations, the Chairman said that the present procedures, whereby the cost of operations were reviewed separately several times a year, regardless of their size, had become cumbersome and laborious. He cited a proposal by the Secretary-General to establish a special financial period of 12 months for a number of current operations.

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Also this morning, the representative of Belgium, speaking on behalf of the European Community, urged the Secretariat to report on the financial authority of peace-keeping officials and on problems associated with contractual services.

* * *

A suit by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to prevent the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina from committing genocide against the Bosnian Serbs is to be heard by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 25 August, together with a second request by Bosnia and Herzegovina for a similar measure against the Federal Republic.

The requests by both parties relate to the application of 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide to which both countries are party. Under its Statute, the Court has the power to indicate provisional measures which ought to be taken to preserve the rights of either party, pending judgement on the merits of the case.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, which had filed a request on 20 March, submitted its second request on 29 July, stating that Yugoslavia had violated all of the protective measures ordered by the Court. The Federal Republic, in a request filed on 10 August, recalled its written intention to submit evidence to the Court establishing the responsibility of the Bosnian authorities for acts of genocide against the Serb people on its territory.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1460
19 August 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, warns that situation in Tajikistan could threaten peace and security in Central Asia; proposes three-month extension to mandate of Special Envoy and United Nations team there; considers establishment of multifaceted United Nations presence.

+ Secretary-General informs Security Council that United Nations now has operational capability for use of air power to support UNPROFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Special Representative for Somalia says active and adequate United Nations presence is needed to achieve peace and security in country; comprehensive disarmament operation to be undertaken in Mogadishu in coming months.

+ UNHCR says 46 patients in Sarajevo are to be evacuated to other countries over the weekend; plans underway to estimate need for medical evacuations from other parts of country.

+ Seventh United Nations European NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine to be held in Vienna from 23 to 24 August in Vienna, on theme of "The Middle East peace process; Palestinian rights and development -- a challenge to Europe".

* * *

Warning that the situation in Tajikistan could become a major threat to peace and security in Central Asia and beyond, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has proposed that the mandate of his Special Envoy to that country and of the small team of United Nations officials there be extended by a further three months.

In a report to the Security Council dated 16 August, the Secretary-General said that because of the escalating crisis on the Tajik-Afghan border, he had asked his Special Envoy to visit Kabul for discussions with Afghan Government leaders on his mandate in Tajikistan, and

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For information media--not an official record

to ascertain the views of Tajik opposition leaders residing there. The Secretary-General said further bloodshed in Tajikistan could only be avoided by peaceful reconciliation with the widest possible participation of all political groups and all regions of the country.

Stressing the country's need for humanitarian and development assistance, he said he would discuss with the Government and relevant agencies how best to organize a multifaceted United Nations presence to provide that support.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday informed the President of the Security Council that the United Nations now has the operational capability for the use of air power in support of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to a United Nations spokesman. Everything was now in place, he said, should the Secretary-General decide to use air power, on the advice of Special Representative Thorvald Stoltenberg and in consultation with the Security Council.

* * *

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Jonathan Howe, today said that the only way to achieve peace and security in the country was with the active presence of adequate United Nations forces. In a message to the Somali people, Admiral Howe stressed that the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) had unprecedented powers mandated by the Security Council and was supported by the world community, with 70 nations contributing civilian staff and 27 contributing military forces.

The Special Representative said the vast arsenal of weapons in the hands of militias, bandits and other elements must be brought under control, the country must be freed of mines and the institutions of justice, law and order must be given new life. In order to improve security throughout Somalia, the following disarmament operations would be carried out over the next few months: the first stages of cooperative disarmament in the Northeast and Central regions; the first stages of militia demobilization in the Northwest; preparation for militia disarmament under the Jubbaland/Kismayo Peace Accord; and the comprehensive disarmament of Mogadishu.

This was the third in a series of messages delivered by the Special Representative to the Somali people since 1 July, outlining political, humanitarian and security objectives of UNOSOM II.

* * *

A spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said today that the condition of 80 patients in Sarajevo had been evaluated and that 46 of them required evacuation. The next evacuation flights will begin over the weekend and will take patients variously to Ireland, Netherlands, Canada or Italy.

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The spokesman said that a total 1,447 beds had been offered by 17 countries for the ill and injured in Bosnia and Herzegovina. UNHCR was now also considering requirements for medical evacuations from places outside Sarajevo, in such areas as central Bosnia, Mostar and the east.

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The current situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and the future strategies of European non-governmental organizations involved in Palestinian issues will be among the topics discussed at the Seventh United Nations European NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine from 23 to 24 August in Vienna. The theme of this year's symposium is "The Middle East peace process; Palestinian rights and development -- a challenge to Europe".

The two-day symposium, organized by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, will be followed immediately by the Tenth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine, which will take place from 25 to 27 August. Both events are being held in Vienna at the invitation of the Austrian Government.

It is expected that some 200 participants and observers will attend. Invitations have been issued to European non-governmental organizations accredited to the Palestinian Rights Committee or which support its work. Governments and organizations have been invited to attend as observers.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1461
20 August 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

• Security Council decides unanimously on list of 23 candidates to serve as Judges on International Tribunal on war crimes in former Yugoslavia.

• Bosnia and Herzegovina peace talks adjourn until 30 August as delegations return home to explain map reflecting recent discussions; Special Representative Stoltenberg to report to Secretary-General and meet with Security Council members next week.

• Use of NATO air power in support of UNPROFOR remains a serious option, says Force Commander Cot; practice exercises and training to continue unabated.

• Secretary-General launches appeal for emergency humanitarian assistance to people in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa affected by recent military attacks by Israel; cost of assistance estimated at some $29 million.

• Armenia requests Security Council meeting to condemn Azerbiajan's "policy of expanding its war against Nagorny-Karabakh"; says it would accept United Nations observers to determine situation on the ground.

• UNHCR struggles to get relief supplies to refugees from Sierra Leone and other displaced persons in Liberia; 175,000 in rain forest said to be in desperate need of food.

* * *

The Security Council today established a list of 23 candidates for Judges to serve on the International Tribunal on war crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia. It took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 857 (1993).

The following candidates were named in the resolution: George Michel Abi-Saab (Egypt): Julio A. Barberis (Argentina) Raphael Barras (Switzerland); Sikhe Camara (Guinea); Antonio Cassese (Italy); Hans Axel Valdemar Corell (Sweden); Jules Deschenes (Canada); Alfonso De Los Heros (Peru); Jerzy

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Jasinski (Poland); Heike Jung (Germany); Adolphus Godwin Karibi-Whyte (Nigeria); Valentin Kisilev (Russian Federation); Germain Le Foyer De Costil (France); Li Haopei (China); Gabrielle Kirk McDonald (United States); Amadou N'Diaye (Mali); Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko (Uganda); Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica); Huseyin Pazarci (Turkey); Moragodage Christopher Walter Pinto (Sri Lanka); Rustam S. Sidhwa (Pakistan); Sir Ninian Stephen (Australia); and Lal Chan Vohrah (Malaysia).

Speaking to correspondents, Madeleine Albright (United States), President of the Security Council, described the selection of the 23 candidates as a major step forward in setting up the Tribunal. She said the candidates represented the major legal systems of the world and also noted with pleasure the inclusion amongst them of two highly qualified women.

Ambassador Albright went on to say that today's action moved the Tribunal one step closer to fulfilling its promise to the victims, and the war criminals one step closer to prosecution and punishment.

* * *

Today, at the Geneva talks seeking to end the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, gave each of the three parties a package containing constitutional papers covering issues they have resolved and a map reflecting recent discussions. The delegations will return home to explain the map and are due back in Geneva for a final meeting on 30 August.

Mr. Stoltenberg will visit New York early next week to report to the Secretary-General and to meet with members of the Security Council, according to a United Nations spokesman. Meanwhile, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Kofi Annan, will pay a visit to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) area of operations from 22 to 27 August to review UNPROFOR operations in the field. He will chair a meeting of troop-contributing countries in Zagreb on 23 and 24 August to resolve outstanding issues concerning the deployment of additional troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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The use of air power in support of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) remains a serious option, and will be sought should conditions so warrant, according to UNPROFOR Force Commander General Jean Cot. General Cot said in a statement issued in Zagreb today that practice exercises and training would continue unabated, and that he would continue to coordinate closely with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which was capable of delivering "this important military resource".

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today launched an appeal for emergency humanitarian assistance to the people in southern Lebanon and west

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Bekaa affected by the recent military attacks by Israel. According to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the estimated cost of the proposed assistance totals $28,745,200.

The appeal, the Secretary-General said, addressed the short-term requirements of the affected population, targeting the most vulnerable, including women and children, the elderly and infirm. A positive response from donors would ensure the provision of assistance to those in need and would contribute towards the rehabilitation of public service infrastructure.

The attacks on southern Lebanon, which erupted on 25 July, killed 132 people and forced around 350,000 to flee their homes, many of which were destroyed or severely damaged. The Secretary-General sent to Lebanon a mission representing the specialized agencies of the United Nations responsible for providing assistance and addressing humanitarian needs, under the leadership of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs. This appeal, he said today, was launched in the light of the mission's findings.

* * *

Armenia has requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council to assess what it calls the most recent evidence of Azerbaijani aggression against it, and to condemn Azerbaijan's "continuing policy of expanding its war against Nagorny-Karabakh to the borders of Armenia". In a letter to the Council dated 18 August, the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations said that the Security Council's refusal to condemn Azerbaijani air attacks last month could "at best be construed as a sign of indifference and at worst an act of encouragement". A clear condemnation by the Council could help to redress that imbalance.

Armenia said it was appalled by the Council's willingness in its informal consultations on 17 August to act on a "one-sided, biased" report from Azerbaijan. Armenia was ready to accept United Nations observers who would be free to determine for themselves the situation on its borders, the damage caused by Azerbaijani shelling and bombings, and the situation of refugees from Azerbaijan "in a Republic under four years of blockade from Azerbaijan", the letter went on to say.

* * *

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is urgently trying to get relief supplies to a Liberian rain forest where 175,000 Sierra Leonean refugees and displaced Liberians fleeing civil conflicts are in desperate need of food. Field officers have reported that malnutrition levels are critical, with children dying at a rate of 15 a day.

A lull in the fighting in Liberia has allowed relief supplies to trickle into upper Lofa County, 300 kilometres north of the Liberian capital of Monrovia, but transport difficulties have prevented full emergency deliveries to the area. The UNHCR dispatched an emergency team to Vahun village in July and last week set up a field office to coordinate relief aid and explore the

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possibility of airlifting relief supplies from Monrovia. The team reported that there were no more of the bush yams, palm fruits and cassava leaves on which the refugees and displaced people had depended.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1462
23 August 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Delegations from Greece and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia meet in New York under auspices of Special Representative; agree to begin direct discussions to resolve differences on 28 September.

+ Secretary-General, on a two-day visit to Canada, meets with Prime Minister and senior officials; Prime Minister announces $13 million contribution to humanitarian relief in Haiti.

+ Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations chairs meeting of UNPROFOR troop-contributing countries in Zagreb; to travel to Sarajevo, Skopje and Belgrade tomorrow.

+ Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in letter to Secretary-General, asks that Security Council sanctions against it be lifted by "fast-track" procedure; says it has made every effort to help peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Head of Civil Affairs for UNPROFOR visits Bosnian town of Mostar -- first United Nations access in almost three months; UNHCR warns of new wave of "ethnic cleansing" by Bosnian Croat forces.

+ Libya, in letter to Secretary-General, expresses indignation at Security Council's maintenance of sanctions against it; says it has spared no effort to comply with international law; stresses readiness to negotiate with parties concerned and with Council to solve crisis.

+ Inter-Agency Humanitarian Needs Assessment Mission begins three-week visit to Zaire; will focus on regions with concentrations of internally displaced people.

* * *

Delegations from Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia met today in New York under the auspices of the Secretary-General's Special Representative Cyrus Vance, according to a United Nations spokesman. Both

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parties agreed to begin direct discussions on a continuing basis in Mr. Vance's presence in New York on 28 September, to be followed by a visit by the Special Representative to Athens and Skopje.

The direct discussions would mark a new phase in efforts to resolve the differences between the parties, in accordance with Security Council resolution 845 (1993), the spokesman said. That resolution urged the two parties to continue their efforts to resolve their differences -- which have centred on the use of the name "Macedonia" -- before the commencement of the forty-eighth session.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on a two-day visit to Canada, today attended the opening ceremony of the annual Congress of the Canadian Bar Association in Quebec City and was awarded an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Laval. The Secretary-General also had meetings with Canada's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and with the Premier of Quebec, and was expected to return to New York this evening.

Upon his arrival in Canada yesterday, the Secretary-General met in Montreal with Prime Minister Kim Campbell. The Prime Minister later announced in a joint press conference that Canada would contribute $13 million to humanitarian relief in Haiti. The Secretary-General said that sanctions against Haiti would be suspended as soon as the Haitian Parliament had confirmed the new Prime Minister, permitting an aid programme for economic development to get underway immediately.

* * *

Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations Kofi Annan today chaired a meeting in Zagreb of countries contributing troops to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Representatives of countries expressing an interest in making new contributions to the operation also participated in the meeting, which will continue tomorrow.

Mr. Annan began a five-day visit to the UNPROFOR area of operations yesterday, when he met with senior Headquarters staff and with regional representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Tomorrow, Mr. Annan will visit Knin and Korenica and will then travel to Sarajevo, Skopje and Belgrade.

* * *

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has asked Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to identify precisely what obligations imposed on it under Security Council resolutions 752 and 757 (1992) have not yet been met. In a letter to the Secretary-General dated 16 August, Prime Minister Radoje Kontic also asked that sanctions imposed in terms of resolution 820 (1993) be lifted "following a fast-track procedure". The

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Federal Republic had complied with the requirements before the deadline, and the contents of the resolution had been "completety superseded by developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina", he said.

Mr. Kontic wrote that the Federal Republic had contributed to efforts to end the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina from the outset. Regrettably, his country had not been successful, nor, he pointed out, had the international community or the Security Council. The Federal Republic was making every effort to help achieve peace and a just solution of the conflict. Despite this, its repeated official requests to the Security Council that sanctions be lifted had received no reply and no action had been taken to that effect.

* * *

Cedric Thornberry, the Head of Civil Affairs for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), on Saturday visited the Muslim area of Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina, an area that had been closed to the United Nations and humanitarian agencies for almost three months. Mr. Thornberry met with local representatives of the Bosnian Presidency in order to address the severe humanitarian problems of the 55,000 people living in the left bank area of Mostar. He said that UNPROFOR, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian agencies could do much to alleviate civilian suffering if the parties agreed to a least a minimum of cooperaton and good will.

In a separate development, UNHCR today expressed alarm over recent reports of detentions, harassment and widespread forced displacement of thousands of Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina by Bosnian Croat forces. Reports from people fleeing southwestern Bosnia and Herzegovina pointed to a new campaign of "ethnic cleansing" as brutal as any so far witnessed. Up to 15,000 Muslim men were now believed to be held in detention centres guarded by Bosnian Croat forces, reportedly in extremely poor conditions.

The UNHCR described the incidents as "only the latest in a long line of human rights abuses allegedly committed by all sides in the conflict", adding that it had also received reports of abuses by Bosnian Government forces against Croats in the Zenica area of central Bosnia, including several cases of looting and vandalism that were largely ignored by local police.

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Saying it has spared no effort to comply with international law, Libya has expressed strong indignation that the Security Council would maintain sanctions against it despite the divergence of views apparent in recent Council consultations. In a letter to the Secretary-General dated 17 August, Libya said it was prepared to negotiate with the parties concerned and with the Council in order to reach a peaceful solution to the crisis. The letter asked the Secretary-General and the Council to establish a mechanism for reaching a mutual understanding of what Council resolution 731 (1992) required and of what measures Libya had taken to meet those requirements.

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Libya said it was "astonishing" that France, the United Kingdom and the United States had set a time-limit of a matter of weeks for the resolution of a problem of such proportions. On 13 August, the three Council members said they would seek to strengthen sanctions against Libya if it failed to comply with resolutions 731 and 748 (1992) by 1 October, which required that Libya transfer to United States or United Kingdom jurisdiction the suspects in the Lockerbie bombing and comply with French requests relating to the bombing of UTA flight 772.

* * *

An Inter-Agency Humanitarian Needs Assessment Mission has arrive in Kinshasa, Zaire, to begin assessing urgent humanitarian requirements and identifying ways to address them, particularly in the regions where there are concentrations of internally displaced people. The Mission, led by Darko Silovic of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, is expected to complete its work within three weeks.

The Mission includes representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Besides the Kinshasa area, they are planning to visit the provinces of Shaba, Nord Kivu and West and East Kasai.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1463
24 August 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in unanimous resolution, urges parties to conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina to conclude just, comprehensive and freely agreed political settlement as soon as possible; says it would consider taking necessary measures to assist in implementation of such an agreement.

+ Security Council establishes United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia to verify compliance with the Cease-fire Agreement of 27 July; welcomes proposed deployment of mixed interim monitoring groups to consolidate cease-fire.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement, deplores upsurge in violence in South Africa and urges parties to multiparty negotiations to redouble efforts to proceed to elections next year.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement last night, expresses concern at conflict in Tajikistan and at threat to peace in region; stresses need for end to fighting on Tajik-Afghan border; welcomes Secretary-General's proposal to extend mandate of Special Envoy for Tajikistan to 31 October.

+ Mohamed Aly Niazi appointed as Assistant Secretary-General for Inspections and Investigations, effective 1 September; to head independent Office with units covering auditing, management advisory services, evaluation and monitoring.

+ Secretary-General welcomes first meeting, held yesterday in Maputo, between President Chissano of Mozambique and Afonso Dhlakama of RENAMO, organized with help of United Nations.

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Acting under the enforcement provisions of the United Nations Charter, the Security Council today urged the parties to the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina to conclude as soon as possible a just and comprehensive political settlement freely agreed by all, and called for an immediate cease-fire and an

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For information media—not an official record

end to hostilities throughout the Republic The Council said it would consider taking the necessary measures to assist the parties in implementing such a settlement, which would require a decision by it. The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 859 (1993), in which it noted with appreciation the report by the Secretary-General's Special Representative on the latest developments at the Geneva peace talks.

The Council affirmed that a solution to the conflict must conform with the United Nations Charter and the principles of international law. It also affirmed the continuing relevance in that context of: the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina; that fact that neither a change in the name of the State nor changes in its internal organization would affect its continued United Nations membership; the principles adopted by the London Conference, including the unacceptability of the acquisition of territory by force or by "ethnic cleansing"; respect for the right of all displaced persons to return home safely; and the maintenance of Sarajevo as a unified, multi-ethnic and pluri-religious city.

The Council demanded that all parties facilitate the unhindered flow of humanitarian assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular to the "safe areas", and respect the safety and operational effectiveness of United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) personnel.

* * *

The Security Council today established the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) to verify compliance with the Cease-fire Agreement of 27 July between the Republic of Georgia and forces in Abkhazia, with special attention to the situation in the City of Sukhumi. The Mission will investigate reports of violations and attempt to resolve such incidents with the parties involved, and report to the Secretary-General on the implementation of its mandate. The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 858 (1993), saying that the continuation of the conflict in Georgia threatened peace and stability in the region.

UNOMIG will be established for a period of six months subject to the proviso that it will be extended beyond the initial 90 days only upon a review by the Council based on a report from the Secretary-General, whether or not substantive progress has been made towards a lasting peace. The Mission will consist of up to 88 military observers and a minimal support staff.

The Council welcomed the proposed deployment of mixed interim monitoring groups of Georgian/Abkhaz/Russian units to consolidate the cease-fire, and asked the Secretary-General to facilitate cooperation between United Nations observers and those units. It called on all parties to respect the Cease-fire Agreement and to cooperate with UNOMIG and ensure the safety of all United Nations personnel and other peace-keeping and humanitarian personnel in Georgia. The Council called on the Georgian Government to conclude a status of forces agreement with the United Nations to facilitate the deployment of UNOMIG.

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The Council asked the Secretary-General to pursue, through his Special Envoy, efforts to facilitate the peace process and political negotiations, and expressed support for his cooperation with the Chairman-in-Office of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

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In a Presidential statement deploring the recent upsurge in violence and discord in South Africa, the Security Council today urged all the parties to the country's multiparty negotiations to redouble their efforts to resolve outstanding issues and to proceed as planned to the election scheduled for next year. It called on all South African leaders to work jointly to prevent violence in the election period, and commended the international community and the United Nations Peace Monitors for their role in helping to curb the violence.

The Council affirmed that all parties in the country must assist the Government in preventing opponents of democracy from using violence to threaten the country's democratic transition. It noted with approval the proposal for a national peace force to restore and maintain order in volatile areas, saying that any such force should be genuinely representative of the society and its major political bodies. The Council also welcomed the efforts by the leaders of the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party to convince their followers to avoid further violence.

People were alive today, the statement said, because of the tireless and courageous efforts of peace monitors of the United Nations and other international organizations, including the Organization of African Unity, the European Community and the Commonwealth, but far too many were still dying. The world community must continue to signal that it would not allow the violence to derail South Africa's political transition. The Council emphasized the key role of the multiparty negotiating process and reaffirmed its determination to remain supportive of efforts to facilitate the peaceful transition to a non-racial democracy for the benefit of all South Africans.

* * *

The Security Council last night expressed deep concern at the continuing conflict in Tajikistan, at the growing crisis on the Tajik-Afghan border, and at the resulting threat this posed to peace and stability in Central Asia and beyond. In a statement read out by its President, Madeleine Albright (United States), the Council stressed the urgent need for an end to hostilities on the border between the two countries, and urged the Government of Tajikistan and opposition groups to accept the need for a political solution and to take part in negotiations for a cease-fire and national reconciliation.

The Council urged the Tajik Government and opposition groups to observe the basic political rights of all groups in the country, with a view to reconciliation and compliance with the principles of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). It reaffirmed the need to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tajikistan and all other

(more)

countries in the region. The Council drew attention to the critical humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and Tajik refugee camps in northern Afghanistan and the need for additional assistance. It called on the Government of Tajikistan to continue assisting in the return and reintegration of Tajik refugees who wished to return home.

The Council also welcomed the Secretary-General's proposal to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy for Tajikistan until 31 October, and to extend the tenure of United Nations officials there by three months. It welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch his Special Envoy to Afghanistan and other countries in the region. The Council also recognized the actions of the Afghan and Tajik Governments in creating new negotiating bodies to reduce tension along their common border.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Mohamed Aly Niazi, an Egyptian national, as Assistant Secretary-General for Inspections and Investigations, effective 1 September. Mr. Niazi will head an independent Office for Inspections and Investigations which will incorporate units dealing with auditing, management advisory services and evaluation and monitoring. He will report directly to the Secretary-General and will work closely with the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management.

The new appointment is the first step towards the establishment of a higher level post with broader audit and investigative authority which is expected to be proposed for approval to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, according to a United Nations spokesman.

Mr. Niazi joined the United Nations as an Auditor in 1964. He served as Chief of the Administrative Management Service in Vienna, as Deputy Director of the Accounts Division at Headquarters and finally as Director of the Internal Audit Division until his retirement in December 1987.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has welcomed the first meeting held yesterday in Maputo between President Joaquim Alberto Chissano of Mozambique and Afonso Dhlakama of the Resistência Nacional Mozambique (RENAMO). The meeting was organized with the assistance of the United Nations.

In a statement issued today, the Secretary-General said the meeting would have a confidence-building impact and would facilitate the full implementation of the General Peace Agreement in Mozambique. He expressed the hope that such dialogue would become an ongoing and action-oriented process, bringing a successful outcome to peace efforts in the country.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1464
25 August 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Bosnian Presidency forces attack UNPROFOR unit on Mount Igman, near Sarajevo; commander of Presidency forces acknowledges attack was made in error; UNPROFOR French company commander wounded; unknown number of Bosnian casualties caused by return fire.

+ Investigation finds "clear and convincing" evidence that General Mohamed Farah Aideed authorized 5 June attack which killed 24 UNOSOM II peace-keepers in Mogadishu; report says General Aideed and senior colleagues are liable to prosecution before international tribunal or criminal courts of any State.

+ Cease-fire brokered by UNPROFOR holds in central Bosnian town of Mostar; United Nations aid convoy expected to reach town today following agreement on humanitarian access.

+ UNHCR assists refugees fleeing Government offensive in southern Sudan; some 60,000 Sudanese cross into Uganda in two days.

+ Chairman of Palestinian Rights Committee tells Symposium on Question of Palestine that Middle East peace talks prove dialogue is possible; urges European countries and organizations to continue to promote comprehensive settlement.

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Elements of the Bosnian Presidency forces today attacked a unit of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) on Mount Igman, near Sarajevo, according to a press release issued by UNPROFOR this afternoon. The French company commander was wounded and evacuated. The UNPROFOR unit returned fire, causing an undetermined number of casualties. After a few hours' standoff, the UNPROFOR soldiers forced the Presidency troops to withdraw.

The commander of the Bosnian Presidency forces later acknowledged the facts of the incident as reported by UNPROFOR, and said that the attack had been made in error, according to the release.

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For information media--not an official record

The UNPROFOR forces were monitoring a zone evacuated by the Bosnian Serb Army on Mount Igman, at the request of Thorvald Stoltenberg, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic had made the Bosnian Serb withdrawal a pre-condition for his return to the Geneva peace talks.

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There is clear and convincing evidence that General Mohamed Farah Aideed authorized the 5 June attack which killed 24 Pakistani peace-keepers serving with the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II), and that the attack was carried out by elements of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), according to a report issued today. The report was compiled after a comprehensive investigation into the incident, conducted by an independent expert on behalf of the Secretary-General.

The attack on the peace-keepers violated multiple provisions of the 1962 Somali Penal Code which had never been repealed, the report pointed out. It also violated international law and thus made General Aideed and his senior colleagues liable to prosecution before an international tribunal or the criminal courts of any State.

There was also sufficient evidence to make a prima facie case that an attack on a Pakistani strong point in Mogadishu on 13 June had been designed by persons associated with the SNA to wound or kill non-combatants, the report went on to say. A central principle of international humanitarian law -- respect for the distinction between combatants and non-combatants -- was violated when individuals or organizations used civilians as shields for military operations or demonstrated a wanton indifference to the protection of non-combatants, the report noted.

* * *

A cease-fire brokered by the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) is holding in the central Bosnian town of Mostar, according to a United Nations spokesman. The cease-fire came into effect last night in anticipation of a United Nations aid convoy reaching Mostar today.

Agreement on humanitarian access was reached yesterday after negotiations involving both sides in Mostar and United Nations officials led by Cedric Thornberry, UNPROFOR's Head of Civil Affairs. UNPROFOR military observers entered the town this morning to monitor the cease-fire.

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Some 60,000 refugees have crossed from Sudan into Uganda in the last two days fleeing a Government offensive in the western Equatorial region of southern Sudan, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(more)

(UNHCR). The latest influx brings to 106,000 the number of Sudanese refugees who have fled into Uganda, Zaire, Ethiopia and Kenya since the offensive began on 5 August.

The new arrivals have been provided with food, medical assistance and shelter by UNHCR and non-governmental organizations working in the region. UNHCR is currently assisting more than 400,000 Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries.

* * *

The Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Keba Birane Cisse (Senegal), said in Vienna today that the 10 rounds of Middle East peace talks sponsored by the Russian Federation and the United States had proven that dialogue was possible, although they had not yet yielded substantive results. Addressing the opening session of the Seventh United Nations European NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine, he urged European countries and organizations to continue their efforts to promote a comprehensive settlement.

Also addressing the opening session, Bernard Mills, Chairman of the European Coordinating Committee for NGOs on the Question of Palestine, stressed that so far Europe had played only a supportive role to the United States in its sponsorship of the peace talks. As a neighbour of the Middle East, it had much to lose if there was war or instability in the region, thus could not afford to let another country, far away, play the dominant role in mediation.

The two-day symposium was organized by the Palestinian Rights Committee, in order to heighten awareness of the situation in Palestine and to create an atmosphere more favourable to the implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1465
26 August 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General outlines to Fifth Committee measures to cut Secretariat expenses, including reducing temporary staff for General Assembly and limiting number and scheduling of meetings; number of consultants and official travel to be cut.

+ Special Envoy Dante Caputo hails Haitian Parliament's ratification of Robert Malval as new Prime Minister of Haiti; Secretary-General to recommend that Security Council suspend sanctions against that country.

+ Secretary-General meets with Libyan envoy to discuss implementation of Security Council resolution regarding establishment of responsibility for destruction of Pan American flight 103 and UTA flight 772.

+ Secretaries-General of United Nations and NATO to meet in Geneva on 1 September to discuss prospects for Bosnia and Herzegovina peace settlement and NATO support for peace-keeping operation in former Yugoslavia.

+ Secretary-General expresses concern at 21 August incident in which UNRWA medical personnel were wounded by Israeli gunfire in Gaza strip; Special Representative Gharekhan protests to Israeli Permanent Representative to United Nations.

+ Secretary-General's representative says NGO Palestine Meeting demonstrates United Nations' concern at stalemate in Middle East conflict; PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, in message to Meeting, calls for direct dialogue between PLO and Israel.

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With barely enough cash to cover the United Nations' regular budget and peace-keeping requirements until the end of the first week of September, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Fifth Committee today that he had to take measures to cut the Organization's expenditures.

(more)

For information media—not an official record

To achieve savings in the cost of servicing conferences and producing documents and records, the Secretary-General said that the number of meetings with services was to be limited, in Geneva and Vienna as well as in New York. The number of temporary assistance staff during the General Assembly could be cut by over 25 per cent, or 100 appointments. In some cases, summary records would be provided instead of verbatim records, and the distribution of different language versions would be altered.

The Secretary-General went on to say that except in the case of emergencies, Security Council meetings would not be provided with full services after 6 p.m. or on weekends. Similar restrictions would apply to the General Assembly, except during the general debate. The hiring of consultants and official travel by staff members would also be curtailed.

* * *

Dante Caputo, the Special Envoy of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) for Haiti, today congratulated the Haitian people and Parliament on the completion of the ratification of Robert Malval as the country's new Prime Minister. Mr. Caputo described the ratification as an essential step in the restoration of democracy.

Mr. Caputo said that on learning that the ratification had been completed, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had immediately begun the procedure of recommending to the Security Council that sanctions imposed on Haiti by resolution 841 (1993) in June be suspended.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met yesterday with an envoy of the Libyan Government to discuss ways and means of implementing Security Council resolution 731 (1992), according to a United Nations spokesman. That resolution urged the Libyan Government to respond fully and effectively to requests for cooperation in establishing responsibility for the destruction of Pan American flight 103 and UTA flight 772.

The Secretary-General will maintain contact with Libyan officials and will meet with the envoy again in the coming days, the spokesman said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will meet with the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Manfred Wörner, in Geneva on 1 September. A United Nations spokesman said the meeting -- the second between the two Secretaries-General -- should be seen in the context of the increasingly close cooperation between NATO and the United Nations.

The meeting will focus on the prospects for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina resulting from the Geneva negotiations and

(more)

on NATO's role in support of the United Nations' peace-keeping role in the former Yugoslavia, according to the spokesman. The Secretaries-General will also discuss the development of closer links between NATO and the United Nations following the decision in that respect taken at a meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers in Athens last June.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed concern regarding an incident in which medical staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) were wounded by Israeli gunfire in the Gaza strip on 21 August. According to a United Nations spokesman, a border policeman fired rubber bullets at a clearly marked UNRWA ambulance which was surrounded by five medical personnel, all of whom were wearing white uniforms. The UNRWA office in Gaza strongly protested the incident to the civil administration.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative Chinmaya Rajaninath Gharekhan this morning protested the incident to Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and requested that it be investigated. The Permanent Representative said his Government would look into the matter and would issue an early reply.

* * *

International non-governmental groups can make a major contribution to the Middle East peace talks by supporting a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question, a representative of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Tenth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine yesterday. Johan Nordenfelt, Director of United Nations programmes against apartheid and for Palestinian rights, said the meeting demonstrated the Organization's concern at the stalemate in the longstanding conflict.

The three-day meeting, organized by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, aims to heighten awareness of the situation in the occupied territories in order to promote implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

In a message to the Meeting, Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), called for a direct dialogue between the PLO and Israel and a resumption of dialogue between the PLO and the United States Administration.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1466
27 August 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in unanimous resolution, confirms that UNTAC functions will end with creation of new Cambodian Government; withdrawal to be completed by 15 November.

+ Responding to confirmation of Haitian Prime Minister and his assumption of office, Security Council votes unanimously to suspend sanctions against Haiti; permanent lifting of sanctions to be considered once provisions of Governors Island Agreement have been fully implemented.

+ Special Envoy Dante Caputo appeals to international community to aid economic and institutional reconstruction in Haiti; stresses importance of restoring diplomatic relations with new Government.

+ Secretary-General expresses sorrow about massacre in Brazil of over 100 Yanomami Indians; says their killing, in International Year of the World's Indigenous People, highlights plight of all indigenous people.

+ Special Representative for former Yugoslavia urges leaders of Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Presidency to help United Nations aid convoy leave Mostar where Moslem civilians have blocked its path since Wednesday.

+ Panel of Inquiry investigating Harbel massacre travels to Liberia to make contact with Interim Government, Armed Forces, political parties and individuals.

+ Secretary-General to visit Milan and Geneva next week; to meet with Special Representative Thorvald Stoltenberg and Secretary-General of NATO.

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The Security Council today confirmed that the functions of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) would end with the creation next month of a new Cambodian Government. The Council also announced its full support for the Constituent Assembly's work of approving a constitution, and stressed the importance of completing that work in accordance with the Paris Agreements. It took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 860 (1993).

(more)

For information media--not an official record

The Council also decided that the withdrawal of the military component of UNTAC would end on 15 November in order to ensure that the process was safe and orderly.

* * *

Responding to the confirmation of the Prime Minister of Haiti and his assumption of office this week, the Security Council today voted unanimously to suspend with immediate effect the sanctions imposed against Haiti in June by resolution 841 (1993). It requested that all States act on that decision as soon as possible. Provision for such a move was made in the Agreement of Governors Island, reached in June between the President of Haiti and the Commander-in-Chief of the country's Armed Forces.

The Council took the action by adopting resolution 861 (1993), by which it also confirmed its readiness to immediately terminate that suspension if, the Secretary-General, with due regard for the views of the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States, informed it that the relevant Haitian authorities had not complied with Governors Island Agreement. The Council undertook to consider lifting the sanctions permanently once the Secretary-General had informed it that the relevant provisions of the Agreement had been fully implemented.

* * *

Dante Caputo, the Special Envoy of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), today appealed to the international community to become actively involved in the economic and institutional reconstruction of Haiti, according to a United Nations spokesman. Mr. Caputo said Latin American and Caribbean countries had a special responsibility in that regard.

Mr. Caputo also stressed that countries which previously had diplomatic representation in Haiti should fully restore their relations with the new Government in Port-au-Prince.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today expressed great sorrow about the massacre in Brazil of over 100 Yanomami Indians, including women and children. He said that the event, taking place during the International Year

Thorvald Stoltenberg, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the former Yugoslavia, today urged the leaders of the Bosnian Croats and the Bosnian Presidency to assist in restoring freedom of movement to the United Nations aid convoy that had been blocked in Mostar since Wednesday. According to a spokesman for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), 113 United Nations military and civilian personnel were trapped in the blockade.

On Wednesday night, the 37-vehicle convoy unloaded its 200-tonne cargo of food first in Croat-controlled west Mostar, and then in Muslim east Mostar. Large numbers of local civilians prevented the vehicles from leaving, lying down in front of them and blocking the road with buses and other vehicles. The local residents said they were doing it because they feared that once the convoy left, they would be subjected to intensified shelling by enemy forces.

Mr. Stoltenberg said that while he sympathised with their plight, it was entirely unacceptable for a United Nations humanitarian convoy to be blocked that way or used to advance the political or military objectives of any party. The cooperation from both parties in Mostar in respecting their agreements with UNPROFOR was vital to the operation.

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The Panel of Inquiry appointed by the Secretary-General to investigate the massacre which took place at Harbel, Liberia, on 6 June, travelled to that country on Wednesday in order to make contacts with the Interim Government and the Armed Forces, as well as political parties and individuals. Earlier in the week, the Panel met with United Nations officials and representatives of non-governmental organizations in Geneva.

The Panel has appealed to anyone with firsthand information about the incident at Harbel to contact it directly or through the United Nations in Monrovia, and has said that any information received will be handled confidentially. The Panel consists of Amos S. Wako, Attorney-General of Kenya, as Chairman, Robert Gersony of the United States and Ambassador Mahmoud Kassem of Egypt.

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On Monday, 30 August, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will attend the opening session of the Institute of International Law in Milan. He will then go to Geneva for several days to meet with senior United Nations officials, including Thorvald Stoltenberg, his Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia and Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

On Wednesday, Mr. Boutros-Ghali will meet the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Manfred Wörner. The Secretary-General is scheduled to return to New York on 7 September.

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